

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MILAN 00336 281501Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 USIA-06 /020 W  
-----281920 073746 /47

R 281245Z FEB 77  
FM AMCONSUL MILAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5261  
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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EUR/WE FOR MCKINLEY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OCON  
SUBJECT: MILAN CITIES CONFERENCE, 18-20 APRIL 1977

1. ALDO ANIASI, PRESIDENT CENTER FOR COOPERATION AMONG  
WORLD'S CITIES, ASKED CONGEN FOR ASSISTANCE SECURING  
PARTICIPATION US CITIES IN APRIL CONFERENCE. THIS ANNUAL  
EVENT, INVENTED BY ANIASI WHILE MAYOR OF MILAN, IS BIG  
GATHERING AT WHICH SOVIETS, LDC'S AND OTHER "SOCIALIST"  
STATES SHINE AND US ET AL LOOK PRETTY DULL. THIS IMBALANCE  
HAS CONCERNED ANIASI AND HE WANTS HELP TO CORRECT IT.

2. COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, OF COURSE, SEND DELEGATIONS AS  
MATTER NATIONAL POLICY. US LEAVES MATTER UP TO INDIVIDUAL  
MAYORS WHO HAVE, IN PAST, HAD LITTLE INDUCEMENT ATTEND.  
NO VOTES TO BE GAINED HERE, TRAVEL COSTLY, RELEVANCE TO  
PROBLEMS OF US MAYOR MARGINAL AND, IN PAST, US PARTNER  
NOT CONSULTED ON PROGRAM OR ASKED TO SERVE AS LEADERS.

3. WHEN ANIASI ASKED HELP, CONGEN THEREFORE TOLD HIM  
THESE OBSTACLES TO US PARTICIPATION DESPITE OUR STRENUOUS  
EXHORTATION IN PAST YEARS. PROMISED, HOWEVER, GO TO BAT  
WITH US CONFERENCE OF MAYORS IF US MAYORS GIVEN PROMINENT  
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RESPONSIBILITIES.

4. ANIASI AGREED AND SUBSEQUENTLY ASKED THAT US MAYORS  
FILL FOLLOWING JOBS:

A. PANEL ON CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND DECENTRALIZATION  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT - ONE RAPPORTEUR AMONG 6 FOREIGN

AND 3 ITALIAN MAYORS.

B. VALUE AND LIMITS OF TECHNOLOGY IN CITY MANAGEMENT.  
TWO COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN (ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT AND  
WATER) AND ONE RAPPORTEUR (TRANSPORTATION)

C. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AT SERVICE OF CITIZEN. ONE  
OF 5 RAPPORTEURS

5. MOREOVER, ANIASI WOULD INCLUDE US MAYOR REPRESENTATIVE  
IN PLANNING GROUP FOR 1978 CONFERENCE.

6. CONGEN INFORMED MICHAEL DI NUNZIO, GENERAL COUNSEL US  
CONFERENCE OF MAYORS, ON 23 FEBRUARY OF ESSENCE ANIASI  
PROPOSAL AND DI NUNZIO PROMISED IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.  
FULL CORRESPONDENCE MAILED TO HIM AND EUR/WE MCKINLEY.

7. IN VIEW ANIASI'S READINESS MAKE MAJOR ADJUSTMENT TO  
MEET PRESUMED NEEDS US MAYORS AND VALUE TO US OF FULL  
REPRESENTATION IN SUCH A FORUM, WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT  
ENCOURAGING US COUNCIL MAYORS TO DO BEST TO FILL SEATS  
OFFERED TO US WITH BEST TALENT AVAILABLE. WE BELIEVE COUNCIL  
SHOULD BE REPRESENTED IN 1978 PLANNING GROUP AS WELL.

8. ANIASI ALSO ASKED IF WE COULD SECURE "COMMUNICATION"  
FROM US EXPERT ON HOW US CITIES FINANCED, I.E. ROLE LOCAL  
TAXATION, STATE FINANCING, CATEGORICAL GRANTS, REVENUE  
SHARING, ETC. SHOULD BE AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT OF  
PERHAPS TEN PAGES. PECKMAN AT BROOKINGS MIGHT BE ABLE  
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TO PROVIDE. NEED NOT BE ORIGINAL BUT SHOULD BE FULLY UP  
TO DATE AND, PREFERABLY, NOT PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED. WOULD  
DEPARTMENT INFORM WHETHER SUCH COMMUNICATION COULD BE  
PROVIDED.FINA

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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